Book reviews

Practical manual for musculoskeletal trauma. Vols. 1 and 2. Edited by *Kwok-Sui Leung* and *Put-Shui Ko*. Pp 747. Heidelberg, etc: Springer-Verlag, 2001. ISBN: 981-4021-62-8. £184.00.

The editors and a number of contributors (principally from Hong Kong) present a manual in two volumes on the management of musculoskeletal trauma as developed at the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The first volume concentrates on the general principles of resuscitation, classification and management protocols for musculoskeletal trauma, and the second solely on operative techniques.

The approach to various aspects of the management of trauma is well structured, with simple flow diagrams relating to various treatment protocols. Also included in each chapter are useful sections on the hazards and pitfalls of treatment, and complications and their prevention. The abundant use of clear illustrations and radiographs complements the text well although these can perhaps be criticised on occasion for being slightly didactic. This approach, however, does have benefits, especially for the trainee, and may prove less bewildering than an array of possible treatment options. The references at the end of each chapter are comprehensive, although they lack cross-referencing in the body of the text.

On the whole, the book fulfils its objective of providing a practical manual for orthopaedic trainees and trauma fellows and, as the preface declares, it is not intended to replace larger tomes already in existence. As such, it justifies addition to the bookshelves of all orthopaedic departments.

D. D. M. Spicer.

Advanced arthroscopy. Edited by *James C. Y. Chow*. Pp 741. Heidelberg, etc: Springer-Verlag, 2001. ISBN: 0-387-98808-4. £183.50.

This volume provides a comprehensive review of advanced arthroscopic techniques applicable to most, if not all, areas of the body. The editor has brought together an impressive list of contributors, many of whom are leaders in each specialist field. The book is well presented with operative photographs in colour and line drawings of good quality. It is divided into seven sections with three each devoted to the upper and the lower limb, and the final one to the spine. They are subdivided into individual chapters with, not surprisingly, the shoulder and knee being the largest. At 733 pages, the book is not overlong, given the comprehensive subject material, and is well referenced.

Although it is primarily an operative instructional manual, as would be expected from the title, it is nicely balanced with some explanation of pathology, the indications for surgery, and an overview of the outcome after intervention. Indeed, there are some chapters which summarise current concepts in, for instance, repair of the rotator cuff and menisci and reconstruction of the anterior cruciate ligament. These pave the way for a more detailed analysis of arthroscopic surgery for these conditions. This format

is somewhat variable throughout the book but it is an excellent introduction, particular for the non-specialist in each field.

The book is primarily aimed at North America where surgeons who perform purely arthroscopic surgery are abundant, particularly in relation to sports medicine. This is not yet the case in this country, although there is a trend towards the American style. It would therefore be of use to specialist arthroscopic surgeons in this country, but sections, albeit interesting, may not be applicable to their practice. The book by its nature details advanced arthroscopic techniques which are not for the occasional arthroscopist and therefore may not be perceived as particularly useful for the general orthopaedic surgeon. It does, however, provide a good overview of the topic, and would be a useful addition to the library of all training centres.

D. R. Bickerstaff.

Bioceramic in joint arthroplasty. Edited by *Aldo Toni* and *Gerd Willmann*. Pp 113. Stuttgart, etc: Georg Thieme Verlag, 2001. ISBN: 3-13-105891-9. Euros 64.95.

This small volume is a collection of 20 concise papers which were presented at the Sixth International Biologix Symposium in 2001. They deal with the clinical outcome of hip replacements with ceramic bearings. A further section considers modes of failure and results of the use of both ceramic-on-ceramic and ceramic-on-metal hip prostheses. Four of the papers are related to hydroxyapatite coating at the bone interface.

For anyone actively involved, or contemplating, ceramic hip replacement, this short volume would make interesting reading.

Neil Rushton.

Essentials of hand surgery. Edited by *John G. Seiler, III*. Pp 276. Philadelphia, etc. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2002. ISBN: 0-7817-3585-8. \$49.95.

This portable paperback volume in A5 size provides the basic information required by all who are presented with trauma to the hand, covering most complexities from common afflictions to traumatic amputation. Line drawings dominate the illustrations, essential for the understanding of clinical signs and the objects of treatment. It is designed essentially for the trainee and is an excellent primer.

Michael Laurence.

The scientific basis of tissue transplantation. Edited by *A. Nather*. Pp 575. New Jersey, etc. World Scientific, 2001. ISBN: 981-02-4583-1. £67.00.

This book is the Basic Sciences component of a diploma course in tissue banking organised by the National University Hospital and National University of Singapore. Various sections cover the anatomy, the biology and physiology of tissues, microbiology, sterile techniques, radiation science, the biology of the healing of allografts, the biomechanics of allografts and immunology. For an orthopaedic surgeon, the anatomy is basic but accurate. The remaining chapters give useful summaries of subjects relevant to the practice of the preparation of allograft tissue. Orthopaedic surgeons who use allograft will be interested and need to know the inherent dangers.

Neil Rushton.